

than 76 million Americans will enjoy our country's scenic waterways, engaging in pastimes from fishing and cruising to water-skiing, sailing, and sightseeing. Most Americans will act responsibly in these activities, ensuring the safety of their families and friends. Yet much work remains to be done if we are to make boating safe for all of us.

Studies indicate that in more than 85 percent of the fully documented recreational boating fatalities, the victim was not wearing any type of life jacket. This tragic statistic highlights a simple fact: personal flotation devices can help prevent more than 600 fatalities annually. I urge all Americans to wear them regularly when on our waterways.

The United States Coast Guard, the National Safe Boating Council, and the many State and local recreational boating organizations and governmental agencies are working with volunteer organizations across the country to educate the boating public about the importance of wearing life jackets. This advice applies not only to boat operators but also to passengers and all individuals participating in sporting activities on the waterways. Falling overboard and capsizing are the leading causes of boating fatalities, and more than half of all boating accidents are alcohol-related. But with responsible behavior and the proper precautions, families and friends can experience the joys of boating for years to come.

In recognition of the importance of safe boating practices, the Congress, by joint resolution approved June 4, 1958 [36 U.S.C. 161], as amended, has authorized and requested the President to proclaim annually the seven day period prior to the Memorial Day Weekend, as "National Safe Boating Week."

Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim May 20 through May 26, 1995, as National Safe Boating Week. I encourage the Governors of the 50 States and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and officials of other areas subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, to join in observing this week. I urge all Americans to practice safe recreational boating during these days and throughout the year.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this eleventh day of May, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-five, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and nineteenth.

William J. Clinton

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 3:14 p.m., May 11, 1995]

NOTE: This proclamation was published in the *Federal Register* on May 15.

Message to the Senate Transmitting the Convention on Nuclear Safety

May 11, 1995

To the Senate of the United States:

I transmit herewith, for Senate advice and consent to ratification, the Convention on Nuclear Safety done at Vienna on September 20, 1994. This Convention was adopted by a Diplomatic Conference convened by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in June 1994 and was opened for signature in Vienna on September 20, 1994, during the IAEA General Conference. Secretary of Energy O'Leary signed the Convention for the United States on that date. Also transmitted for the information of the Senate is the report of the Department of State concerning the Convention.

At the September 1991 General Conference of the IAEA, a resolution was adopted, with U.S. support, calling for the IAEA secretariat to develop elements for a possible International Convention on Nuclear Safety. From 1992 to 1994, the IAEA convened seven expert working group meetings, in which the United States participated. The IAEA Board of Governors approved a draft text at its meeting in February 1994, after which the IAEA convened a Diplomatic Conference attended by representatives of more than 80 countries in June 1994. The final text of the Convention resulted from that Conference.

The Convention establishes a legal obligation on the part of Parties to apply certain general safety principles to the construction, operation, and regulation of land-based civilian nuclear power plants under their jurisdic-

tion. Parties to the Convention also agree to submit periodic reports on the steps they are taking to implement the obligations of the Convention. These reports will be reviewed and discussed at review meetings of the Parties, at which each Party will have an opportunity to discuss and seek clarification of reports submitted by other Parties.

The United States has initiated many steps to deal with nuclear safety, and has supported the effort to develop this Convention. With its obligatory reporting and review procedures, requiring Parties to demonstrate in international meetings how they are complying with safety principles, the Convention should encourage countries to improve nuclear safety domestically and thus result in an increase in nuclear safety worldwide. I urge the Senate to act expeditiously in giving its advice and consent to ratification.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
May 11, 1995.

**Letter to Congressional Leaders
Transmitting a Report on
Democracy Promotion Programs**

May 11, 1995

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am pleased to transmit herewith a report on the democracy promotion programs funded by the United States Government. The report is required by section 534 of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act for Fiscal Years 1994 and 1995 (Public Law 103-236).

The report reviews the current status of U.S.-sponsored programs to promote democracy. As part of the Vice President's National Performance Review, agencies will be seeking ways to further streamline these programs in the coming months.

Sincerely,

William J. Clinton

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to Jesse Helms, chairman, Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, and Benjamin A. Gilman, chairman, House Committee on International Relations.

**Remarks at the Menorah Memorial
at Babi Yar in Kiev**

May 12, 1995

Thank you, Rabbi, to the people of Ukraine, and especially to the veterans of World War II and the children who are here. Here on the edge of this wooded ravine, we bear witness eternally to the consequences of evil. Here at Babi Yar, almost 54 years ago, more than 30,000 men, women, and children were slaughtered in the first 3 days alone. They died for no other reason than the blood that ran through their veins. We remember their sacrifice, and we vow never to forget.

In late September 1941, the Nazi occupying army ordered the Jewish population of Kiev together, with their valuables and belongings. "We thought we were being sent on a journey," one survivor recalled. But instead they were being herded to the ravine, stripped, and shot down. By year's end, more than 100,000 Jews, 10,000 Ukrainian nationalists, Soviet prisoners of war, and gypsies had been exterminated here.

The writer, Anatoly Kuznietzov, was a child in Kiev during the war. He remembers the day the deportations began. "My grandfather stood in the middle of the courtyard straining to hear something. He raised his finger. 'Do you know what?' he said with horror in his voice. 'They're not deporting them. They're shooting them.'"

Years later, Kuznietzov brought the poet Yevgeny Yevtushenko to Babi Yar. And that night, Yevtushenko wrote one of his most celebrated poems:

Over Babi Yar there are no memorials.
The steep hillside, like a rough inscription.
I am frightened. Today I am as old
as the Jewish race. I seem to myself a
Jew at this moment.

These words speak to us across the generations, a reminder of the past, a warning for the future.

In the quiet of this place, the victims of Babi Yar cry out to us still. Never forget, they tell us, that humanity is capable of the worst, just as it is capable of the best.

Never forget that the forces of darkness cannot be defeated with silence or indiffer-